



Agricultural Biotechnology Research Experiences for the Preponderantly Hispanic Population of South Texas- 2006

(funded also in 2001 and 2003)

Texas A&M University- Kingsville
PD: Eliezer S. Louzada
Molecular Biology

Objectives

- To provide hands-on research experience for undergraduate students
- To channel undergraduate students to graduate studies (career in science)

Results Obtained

- Forty five students participated
- Twenty in Graduate School
- Four at Ph.D. level
- For fall 2006
 - Four undergraduate students trainees

Hands-on Research, Bridges to Graduate Studies in Agricultural Biotechnology
 Leading institution: Texas A&M University- Kingsville
 Cooperator institution: University of Texas at Brownsville and the University of Texas Pan-American
 PD: Eliezer Louzada- coPD: Michael Persans and Gerson Peltz

Gabriela, Diana, Sandra, Carlos, Juan, Eli, Lester, Jacobo, Charita, Maria, Edwards, Jara
 Edio Longoria, Cristobal Perez, Jose De Jesus, Maria Hernandez, Gabriela Garcia, Sandra Fierro, Patricia Sanchez, Rowena, Bonnie, David, Janis, Ismael, Moath
 Rhianna, Jacquelina, Alejandra, Pedro, Jesus, Cassandra, Arturo, Rana, John, Glee-An, [unlabeled]
 Steven Reyes, Rhianna Hughes, Joanne Hamilton, Cristina Banuelos, Jorge Fernandez
 [unlabeled], Adriana, Arlene, Maha

■ Undergraduate Students
 ■ Medical School
 ■ Masters Degree Students
 ■ PhD Students

93% Hispanic

Masters: At A&M-Kingsville, UTB, and UTPA.
 Ph.D.: At A&M- College Station, and in Switzerland

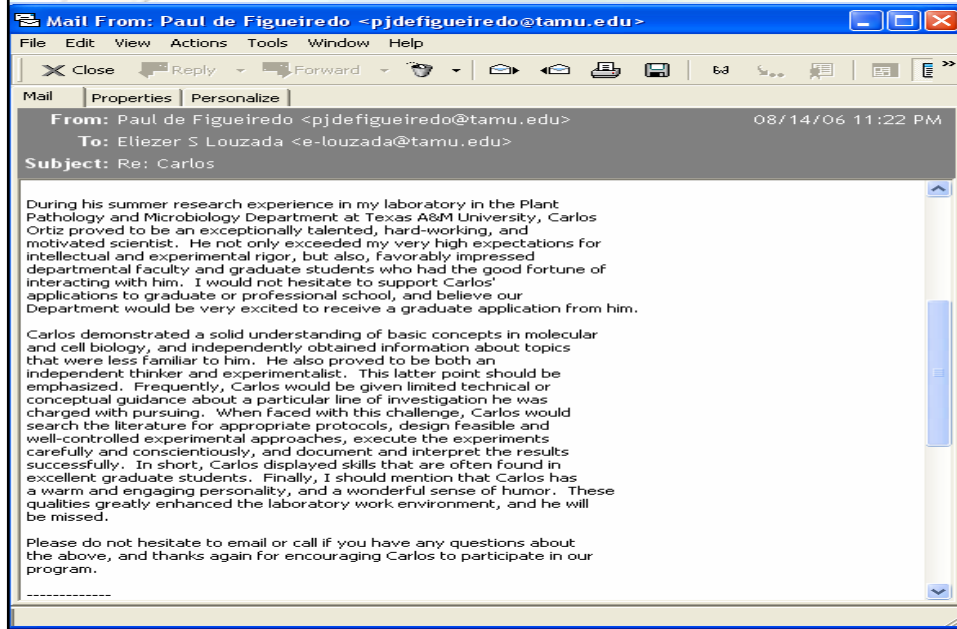
What did the Students Get

- Opportunity-Future
- Critical thinking
- Ability to take decisions
- Better understanding of upper level classes
- Self-confidence
- Feel privileged among other students
- Became good mentors

Lessons Learned

- Open doors
- You need to be their home model
- Talk about future
- Stress the fact that they can do and you trust them
- Don't worry about damage equipment
- Student mentoring students
- Longer time internships
- Maintain contact with students after the internships
- Technician working together is a plus

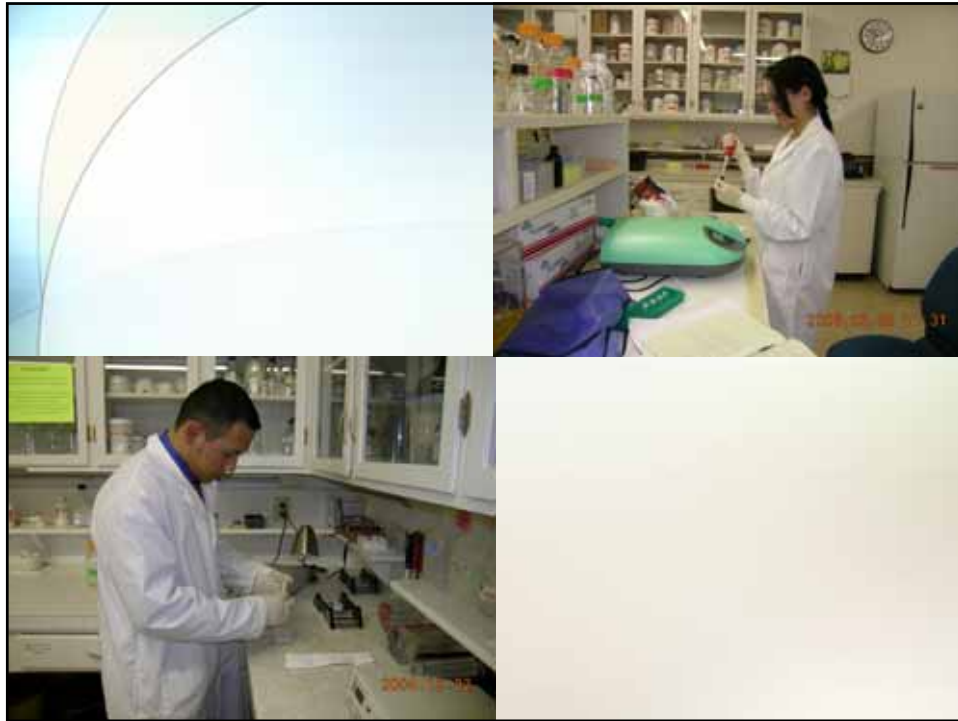
Summer Internship in other Labs



Facts in Photos







Acknowledgement

- To HSI-USDA
- To Sonia del Rio- Technician